What is claimed is:

1. An oligomer comprising

(1) a backbone comprising a polyester, said polyester being prepared by reacting at least the following reactants:

(a) one or more polyalkylesters;

(b) one or more polyols; and

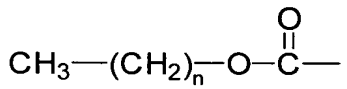
(c) optionally, one or more components selected from the group consisting of polycarboxylic acids, polycarboxylic anhydrides, and hydroxy-functional monocarboxylic acids;

(2) one or more curable groups attached to said backbone;

wherein said polyester has a number average molecular weight below 5,000 g/mol.

2. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein said one or more polyalkylesters include an aromatic ring.

3. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein said one or more polyalkylesters include a polyalkylester having two or more groups represented by the following formula (1)



(1)

wherein n is 0 or 1.

4. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein at least 50wt% of said reactants is said one or more polyalkylesters, said 50wt% being relative to the combined weight of said polycarboxylic acids, said polycarboxylic acid anhydrides, said hydroxy-functional monocarboxylic acids, and said polyalkylesters.

5. The oligomer according to claims 1, wherein said one or more polyols include a C_1-C_8 polyol.

6. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein said one or more polyalkylesters include dimethyl terephthalate.

7. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein said one or more polyalkylesters is dimethyl terephthalate.

8. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein said one or more polyols includes diethylene glycol.

9. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein said one or more polyols includes propylene glycol.

10. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein said one or more curable groups include one or more (meth)acrylate groups.

11. The oligomer according to claim 10, wherein said one or more curable groups are attached to said backbone via urethane groups.

12. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein said oligomer is a polyester urethane diacrylate.

13. The oligomer according claim 1, wherein said polyester is prepared by reacting

(a) at least 90 wt%, relative to the combined weight of components (a) and (c), of said polyalkylesters,

(b) said one or more polyols, and

(c) 0-10 wt%, relative to the combined weight of components (a) and (c), of said one or more components selected from the group consisting of polycarboxylic acids, polycarboxylic anhydrides, and hydroxy-functional monocarboxylic acids.

14. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein said backbone further comprises a polymeric unit other than said polyester.

15. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein said number average molecular weight is in the range of 500-1500 g/mol.

16. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein said polyester has a viscosity such that the viscosity of a 3:1 (wt/wt) mixture of the polyester with ethoxylated (4) nonylphenol acrylate is below 2500 cPs at 60°C.

17. The oligomer according to claim 16, wherein said viscosity is at least 500 cPs.

18. The oligomer according to claim 1, wherein said polyester has an acid number rise of less than 3.0.

19. A composition comprising the oligomer according to claim 1.

20. The composition of claim 19, further comprising a reactive diluent.

21. The composition according to claim 19, wherein said composition, after cure, exhibits a tensile modulus of at least 500 MPa at 23°C.

22. The composition according to claim 19, wherein said composition, after cure, exhibits a tensile modulus of at least 1000 MPa at 23°C.

23. The composition according to claim 19, wherein said composition, after cure, exhibits an elongation at break of at least 25% at 23°C.

24. The composition according to claim 19, wherein said composition, after cure, exhibits an elongation at break of at least 40% at 23°C.

25. A process comprising coating a substrate with the composition according to claim 19.

26. The process of claim 25, wherein said substrate is an optical fiber.

27. A coated optical fiber comprising:

(a) an optical fiber; and

(b) one or more coatings surrounding said fiber;

wherein at least one of said one or more coatings is obtained by curing a composition according to claim 19.

28. A process for making a polyester urethane (meth)acrylate oligomer, comprising:

(1) preparing an oligomeric polyester polyol by reacting

(a) one or more polyalkylesters; with

(b) one or more polyols; and

(2) reacting said oligomeric polyester polyol with

(c) one or more polyisocyanates; and

(d) one or more hydroxyfunctional (meth)acrylates.